

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA,
HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013

The Honorable Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, met in regular session on Thursday, September 12, 2013, at 6 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, there being present:

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| President: | Russell |
| Councilpersons: | Culver, Olshefski, Kling, Showers |
| Mayor: | Battle |
| City Administrator: | Reynolds, Hamilton |
| City Attorney: | Joffrion |
| City Clerk-Treasurer: | Hagood |

President Russell called the meeting to order.

Rev. Joan M. Henrick, Rector, St. Columba in the Cove, led the invocation; members of Boy Scout Troop 633 led the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council on August 22, 2013, were approved as submitted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Resolutions and Special Recognitions.

President Russell recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle asked Mr. Dave Hargrove to come forward, noting that he represented AT&T. He stated that this was a yearly pledge the City did, concerning texting and driving.

Mayor Battle stated the City had a proclamation declaring September 19, 2013, as Drive for Pledges Day regarding the AT&T

"It Can Wait" no texting while driving campaign. He stated that the proclamation basically said that texting and driving was an unsafe thing to do and that the campaign was to encourage everyone not to text and drive.

Mayor Battle asked Mr. Hargrove to comment on this campaign.

Mr. Hargrove stated that AT&T was one of 200-plus organizations that would be involved with this campaign one week from this date, noting that it was nationwide and there would be approximately 2,000 events taking place. He stated that AT&T was working with its competitors, such as Verizon, T-Mobile, and Sprint, on this effort. He stated that he certainly wanted to give the City some credit on this, noting that Mr. Joffrion had worked on the City ordinance concerning this several years prior. He continued that a statewide ban had gone into effect in August of 2012 and that many years prior Redstone Arsenal had been among the first to recognize this was a problem and had done a handheld cell phone ban.

Mr. Hargrove encouraged everyone to be thinking about this situation on September 19 and to pledge to never engage in this behavior.

Mayor Battle presented a copy of the proclamation to Mr. Hargrove, thanking him for his company's participation in this event.

Councilman Culver read and introduced a resolution congratulating Mr. Henry Beecher Hicks, III, keynote speaker

for the North Alabama African-American Chamber of Commerce (NAAACC) Awards Luncheon, held at the Von Braun Center on September 12, 2013, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-650)

Councilman Culver moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell recognized Councilman Showers.

Councilman Showers stated that he and Councilman Culver had attended the annual conference the North Alabama African-American Chamber of Commerce had sponsored during the week, noting that the expo had been a marvelous opportunity. He stated that Mr. Beecher had been an outstanding speaker and that he and Councilman Culver had been delighted to present to him an honorary citizen certificate and the resolution.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Public Hearings to be Set.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution to set a public hearing on an ordinance amending the approved Transect Plan, Open Space Plan, Development Plan, and Phasing Plan for Providence Planned Development, LUI Rating 56, to include a relayout of the approved Providence Planned Development, at the October 24, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-651)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by

Councilman Showers.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 13-652, amending the approved Transect Plan, Open Space Plan, Development Plan, and Phasing Plan for Providence Planned Development, LUI Rating 56, to include a relayout of the approved Providence Planned Development.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from the Public.

Mr. Dale Jackson, 123 Main Street, appeared before the Council, expressing appreciation for being allowed to speak at this time.

Mr. Jackson stated that the Council members were all public figures, that everyone sitting on the podium who was elected was a public figure. He stated that he had appeared before the Council at its prior meeting and that one of the Council members had told him that he possibly would be sued based on something he had said at that time or something that he had written about in the past.

Mr. Jackson stated that he was appearing before the Council to tell them that The New York Times v. Sullivan case had raised the bar very high if a public figure was going to attempt to sue a citizen or a member of the media. He stated that the simple fact was that one asking questions of the Council members was allowed and should be encouraged. He

stated that any time someone sat in the position of a Council member and threatened lawsuits or said they were going to sue someone, it would quiet both media personnel and citizens, and that they should not be doing that, that they should not be attempting to chill free speech. He stated that free speech was very important, that persons had died for this right. He continued that this country was one of the few in the world that allowed a free press.

Mr. Jackson stated that everyone who had been in the Council Chambers at the prior meeting or had heard what had happened had been outraged by it. He stated that there was no reason for him not to have been given the extra minute to speak at the prior Council meeting and that there was no reason for a Council member to get up and storm out of the room while someone was asking him questions.

Mr. Jackson stated that the Council member might not have liked what was occurring and that that was okay but that the simple fact of the matter was that the only reason a public figure would mention they were going to sue someone would be to quiet them. He stated that the fact of the matter was that it would be almost impossible for a public figure to win such a lawsuit unless they could prove that the person that was doing whatever was doing it maliciously and knew it was false. He continued that he had not done what he had done maliciously and that he did not know it was false and that he had simply asked questions. He stated that he had not even gotten through his

questions because he had run out of time. He stated that he understood that the Council had rules and that that was completely fine in his world but the simple fact was that he had not gotten to ask his questions, that he did not get his extra minute.

Mr. Jackson stated that he understood the Council had problems with naming persons by name and stated that he was not doing that at this time but noted that the simple fact was that the Council should not tell persons they could not speak, that they should not try to chill free speech, that they should give everyone the opportunity to come before the Council and ask any questions they would want to.

Mr. Jackson stated that apparently the Council was at this time going to let him speak as long as he wanted and stated that he certainly liked that. He stated that the simple fact was that there had been one public figure in the state of Alabama in the prior 50 years to win a defamation case against anyone.

President Russell informed Mr. Jackson that his time was up and inquired as to whether he needed additional time.

Mr. Jackson replied in the affirmative.

President Russell asked if the Council members were in agreement to give Mr. Jackson one more minute to speak.

Councilman Culver stated that he would like for Mr. Jackson to have as much time as he needed.

President Russell stated that the Council would allow

Mr. Jackson an additional minute to conclude his comments.

Mr. Jackson stated that if he had been given an additional minute at the prior Council meeting, he would not be speaking at this meeting.

Mr. Jackson stated that Bear Bryant was the last public figure in the state of Alabama to win a defamation case.

Mr. Jackson asked that in the future the Council not do this to citizens, noting that most persons did not know the law and the rules but that he did. He stated that persons who appeared before the Council did not want to be threatened with lawsuits and that this should not have happened and that it should never happen again.

Ms. Jackie Reed, Jack Coleman Drive, appeared before the Council, expressing appreciation to the Council for allowing public input, noting that she had been appearing before the Council for 28 years. She welcomed Dale Jackson to the Council meeting, noting that he hosted a radio broadcast, and that persons should tune in and hear his opinions. She stated that persons needed to hear what was going on and needed strong opinions.

Ms. Reed stated that she had attended a County Commission meeting recently and they had not liked her opinions but that she would continue to voice them.

Ms. Reed stated that the County Commission had given their employees a 5 percent raise and questioned why the City was only giving a 1 percent raise to its employees.

Ms. Reed stated that the Madison County Commission did have \$4 million in pork funds and that that was the reason they had gotten mad at her, because she had questioned what they did with their pork funds.

Ms. Reed stated that she was still concerned about the proposed new Walmart and stated that she understood there was going to be a public hearing concerning this and that Councilman Kling could advise persons as to the date of this.

Ms. Reed stated that, as she understood it, there was a traffic study only when there was new development and asked if the proposed Walmart was new development. She stated that she understood there had been a move made on this proposal and that she did not understand how the City would be able to stop it at this time.

Ms. Reed stated that there would be a public hearing concerning chickens in the city on September 24. She stated that she had come from the country to the city to get a different environment and questioned why they would be allowing chickens in the city.

Ms. Reed stated that she was concerned about the school deal that was on the agenda. She stated that Grissom High School had been appraised in the amount of \$10 million. She stated that perhaps Mr. Joffrion could explain the sheet of paper that had been at the School Board meeting the prior week and stated that she would certainly like to hear about that. She stated that they had sold East Clinton School for

\$1.5 million, that University Place had sold for \$4 million, and yet Grissom High School was \$10 million. She asked if she was missing something in this matter. She asked that they explain this matter, stating that she felt the public had a right to be informed on this.

Ms. Reed stated that apparently Downtown Huntsville, Inc., was a powerful group, noting that the City was giving them \$90,000 of taxpayer dollars. She continued that when she asked to go to their meetings, she was advised that the public could not attend these meetings. She asked how the City could give \$90,000 to this group when no member of the public could attend their meetings. She stated that this had to change.

Mr. Howard Ross, 6620-D, Willow Pointe Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that he had some real property he would like to convey to the City and asked who he would talk to concerning the rules and regulations regarding this.

President Russell asked Mr. Joffrion to advise him as to whom he should send Mr. Ross.

Mr. Joffrion stated that perhaps they would want to start with Mayor Battle's office, noting that he did not know if the City would be interested in acquiring this property. He asked Mr. Ross if he had had any communication concerning this with any City representative.

Mr. Ross replied in the negative, stating that he was possibly looking at just conveying it as a gift.

Mr. Joffrion stated that Mr. Ross could contact him at his

office and provided his telephone number.

Mr. Ralph Timberlake, 2117 Atkins Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that he was appearing before the Council concerning transparency, noting that it appeared it was being made a mockery of. He stated that the School Board said that what they said could not frighten the children, that what they did could not frighten the children, but that what the public said could have a detrimental and injurious effect on the children. He continued that they were using this to create a dual agenda, where they got to act on everything they wanted to do or were trying to do, but that when it came to the ones who should truly know, that the people did not need to know what was going on, nor did they need a platform so that they could assist the representatives in doing what was just in the sight of God and man and beneficial to all the citizens.

Mr. Timberlake stated that he was bringing this up because the City was going to do business with the School Board. He continued that bad company corrupted good morals. He stated that it appeared that the Council had some good morals when it came to openness and transparency, yet they were dealing with the School Board. He continued that he understood that the Council had no right to micromanage the School Board but stated that since they were going to deal with the School Board, he felt it was in the City's best interest to ask them to return to what was right and just and make all of their meetings open because he felt it was a shame for them to cut off part of them

from the public. He stated that the Revolutionary War had been fought so that citizens would not have to have taxation without representation and that this was a clear and unmistakable violation of this. He stated that he could not get out of paying his taxes and the School Board should not get out of allowing all citizens to be heard.

Mr. Jerry Cox, 4029 Telstar Circle, appeared before the Council, stating that, as a veteran of the United States Army, he would like to respectfully acknowledge the 19 U.S. Army soldiers and 1 U.S. Air Force airman killed in the war since he had last reported to the Council a month prior. He stated that there were still soldiers dying in the war and that he certainly hoped the country was not about to have another military action.

Mr. Cox stated that he had been prepared to speak of an unfortunate incident that he had had with the Community Development office but that the distinguished director of this office had presented him just moments prior with the documents he had been attempting to obtain so that he would not discuss this and would yield the remainder of his time to the next speaker.

President Russell stated that that concluded the speakers.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Board Appointment Nominations.

President Russell nominated Joe Ritch for reappointment to the Animal Services Advisory Committee, Place 3, for a term to

expire September 8, 2016.

President Russell nominated Mary Gustine for reappointment to the Animal Services Advisory Committee, Place 4, for a term to expire September 8, 2016.

President Russell nominated Rob Archer for reappointment to the Beautification Board, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Lenore Dunn for reappointment to the Beautification Board, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Betty Gaylor for reappointment to the Beautification Board, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Denise Gore for reappointment to the Beautification Board, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Peg Heeschen for reappointment to the Beautification Board, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Tammy Leeth for reappointment to the Beautification Board, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Joy Parker for reappointment to the Beautification Board, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Tony Smith for appointment to

the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2015.

President Russell nominated Jon Sharpe for appointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2015.

President Russell nominated Lea Ellison for appointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Andrew Shambarger for appointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Dawn Stanley for appointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Amy Harbarger for reappointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Belinda Melson-Kennedy for reappointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Sheree Vaughan Kelley for reappointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Linda Spalla for reappointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Nancy E. Archuleta for reappointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Kimberly A. Ford for reappointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Sarah Wilkinson Hereford for reappointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Richard L. Morris for reappointment to the Burritt Memorial Committee, for a term to expire October 1, 2016.

President Russell nominated Steve Stricklin for reappointment to the Board of Examinations and Appeals for Construction Industries, for a term to expire September 21, 2016.

President Russell nominated Mark Seely for reappointment to the Board of Examinations and Appeals for Construction Industries, for a term to expire September 21, 2016.

President Russell nominated Edward T. Jones for reappointment to the Board of Examinations and Appeals for Construction Industries, for a term to expire September 21, 2016.

President Russell nominated Keith J. Mandel for reappointment to the Board of Examinations and Appeals for Construction Industries, for a term to expire September 21,

2016.

President Russell nominated Kenneth W. Chandler for reappointment to the Board of Examinations and Appeals for Construction Industries, for a term to expire September 21, 2016.

Councilman Kling nominated Levoy Smartt for appointment to the Housing Board of Adjustments and Appeals, for a term to expire August 22, 2014.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Approval of Expenditures.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution authorizing expenditures for payment, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-653)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell asked Councilman Kling if there was a Finance Committee Report.

Councilman Kling stated that Mr. Randy Taylor, Finance Director, had a report concerning sales tax revenues.

Mr. Taylor stated that he had the latest figures for sales tax, for sales that had occurred during the month of July, with the taxes being collected in August.

Mr. Taylor stated that the sales tax revenue was down 1.9 percent compared to the previous August, and that this meant that for year-to-date they were at 1.6 percent growth,

for the 11 months, over the prior year. He stated that this was lower than this figure needed to be, noting that it had been running at approximately 2 percent. He stated that this was the first month, and hopefully the only month, in which the direct impact of sequestration had made itself known inside the local economy. He stated that some persons had had leave without pay and therefore were not spending as much money. He stated that hopefully things would improve over the next two months.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from the Mayor. He recognized Mayor Battle.

Mayor Battle announced the appointment of Mike Stanfield to the Research Park Board, Seat 5, held by William Gurley, to fill this unexpired term, to expire July 22, 2015.

Mayor Battle introduced John Hamilton, noting that he would be replacing the outgoing City Administrator, Rex Reynolds, on January 1, 2014. He stated that Mr. Hamilton had been on the job for the last couple of weeks and that he had brought a wealth of knowledge with him that would prove extremely valuable to government services. He stated that Mr. Hamilton had been able to visit quite a few of the City departments thus far and asked that everyone introduce themselves to him, noting that he would be a part of the team going forward.

Mayor Battle stated that Monday, September 9, had marked the 50th anniversary of school desegregation in Huntsville. He

continued that a re-enactment had taken place on Governors Drive with Dr. Sonny Hereford and his son, and that there had also been another person, who had been one of the first persons to integrate Huntsville City Schools. He stated that these were persons who had taken some first steps toward equality in the community and stated that he felt they should all be honored. He stated that there had been a ceremony in the Library, on the third floor, and that if persons had missed it, it would be shown in the future on some of the TV channels. He stated that this was a very good ceremony, celebrating how far they had come and also looking back at where they were.

Mayor Battle stated that the prior day had been the anniversary of 9-11, noting that 12 years prior the country had faced some tough times with an act of terrorism, and that through this act of terrorism, the country had come together as it never had previously. He stated that he was very proud of the policemen and firemen who had lined up in front of the flag pole and put the flag at half mast at 7:30, to signify the time the first plane had gone into the first building. He stated that as persons stood there, it had had a profound effect on each of them. He stated that this had been a terrible tragedy to the country but that out of that tragedy, they had found themselves as a country that had come together as it never had before and as it needed to in the future.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Communications from Council members.

Councilman Showers stated that on the following weekend, he would be representing the Mayor and Council at the 123rd Annual Session of the Indian Creek PB meeting.

Councilman Showers stated that on September 15, he would be at the church anniversary at Phillips CME, representing the Mayor and the Council and presenting an honorary citizen certificate.

Councilman Showers stated that he would like to take the remainder of his time to address a concern he had for the community. He stated that several weeks prior, he had announced that there would be a town meeting on September 3 at the Showers Center. He stated that, however, this meeting had had to be canceled, and that they then had sent out letters for a meeting on September 10. He continued that, however, there had been an election on that date, and that meeting had also had to be canceled.

Councilman Showers stated that he did want to state to those persons who were concerned about the Housing Authority locating 40 units on Winchester Road that they would be receiving a notice from his office that on Tuesday, September 17, there would be a town meeting concerning this matter at the Showers Center, at 6 p.m. He urged all persons who were concerned about this to be present and stated that all persons who had previously submitted questions would have their questions addressed and that there would be ample time to deal with persons' concerns relating to this matter.

Councilman Showers stated that on October 14 there would be an open house at the Showers Center, noting that they wanted the public to see what they had there. He stated that this was one of the most used facilities in the city and that persons would be able to learn what programs went on at the Center and see the library, the swimming pool, the computer lab, et cetera. He stated that they had recently put in another pavilion and that this would be available for weddings, reunions, parties, et cetera. He stated that this was the public's facility and they should come out on October 14, at 6 p.m., to participate in the open house. He stated that there would be refreshments provided.

Councilman Showers stated that many persons had been following media reports concerning the schools in the city. He stated he clearly understood that he was elected to represent the concerns, the wishes, and the needs of people from his Council seat. He stated that it had been reported that two of the city schools would be replaced, that Johnson High School would be relocated to Pulaski Pike and Grissom High School would also be relocated.

Councilman Showers stated that he had had five children who had attended Johnson High School. He continued that the school superintendent and the district's school board member had assured persons that there would be quality programs, curriculum, and the best teachers in the city, to enhance the academics at Johnson High School, and that he had been

delighted and sold on this particular principle. He stated that recently he had been informed that there was a move to change the name of Johnson High School. He stated that they needed to keep the legacy of the name of Johnson High School, that the name of the school should not be changed. He stated that this name change was being driven by the belief that if the name were maintained, it would eliminate persons from having an interest in the school.

Councilman Showers noted that there was a school board member in the audience, Dr. Jennie Robinson, and asked her to stand and be recognized.

Councilman Showers stated to Dr. Robinson that they did not want the name of the school to be changed, that they were in agreement with moving it to Pulaski Pike but they wanted to keep the name of Johnson High School.

Councilman Showers stated that when there was a new Lee High School constructed, there had been a proposal to change the name but that because citizens had come together and appealed this matter to the Board, it had been reconsidered and the name had remained the same. He stated that he certainly hoped they did not have to follow that path with Johnson High School, that he hoped the name of Johnson High School would be maintained throughout the transition.

Councilman Culver stated that they had had a very good town meeting on the prior Tuesday for the Edgewater and Mountainbrook communities and expressed appreciation to

Mayor Trulock of Madison and Mr. D.J. Kline, a Council member in Madison, as well as Mayor Battle and all the City employees who had also been in attendance, noting that these employees had done an excellent job in answering questions from the public. He stated that the new concurrent City Administrator, Mr. John Hamilton, had also contributed much to this meeting, addressing questions concerning Redstone Arsenal.

Councilman Culver stated that the purpose of this meeting was not only to show unity as related to the City of Madison and the City of Huntsville working together, along with the County and the State, but also to clarify that nothing had changed concerning the projects in the CIP Plan related to the Zierdt Road and Martin Road projects. He stated that these roads were on track, noting that they were going to use some of the ATRIP funding on this. He stated that some of this would be used to expedite the widening of the Zierdt Road project. He stated that none of these monies had been redirected, that they were all earmarked for those projects in the western portion of the city.

Councilman Kling stated that on the following Monday, he would be holding his monthly town meeting at the Library and invited everyone to attend, stating that this was a very informal but valuable process, allowing him to receive some good input and find out about the infrastructure projects or needs in the neighborhoods that needed to be taken care of.

Councilman Kling stated that he would be meeting with the

Midtown Huntsville Association on the following Wednesday evening at the Library, at 6:30 p.m., to discuss the potential impact of the Walmart that was being proposed on the Parkway, south of Drake Avenue. He stated that this would be primarily for the residents of the affected neighborhoods but that it was a public meeting.

Councilman Kling stated that he had recently attended a meeting of the Holiday Homes Neighborhood Association, noting that some good things had been discussed. He stated that the residents in this area certainly appreciated what the Police Department and the Community Relations Officers did in these neighborhoods. He stated that these were the best ambassadors they had from City government out in the neighborhoods. He stated that they appreciated the work the CRO's were doing throughout the city.

Councilman Kling wished Mr. Will Halsey a Happy Birthday, noting that the Council certainly appreciated what he had done for the community.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he always appreciated Mr. Cox's comments concerning the soldiers.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he was certainly disappointed that "The Huntsville Times" had not recognized 9-11 on its front page. He continued that he certainly appreciated Mayor Battle's remarks earlier in the meeting concerning 9-11.

Councilman Olshefski welcomed Mr. John Hamilton to the

City staff.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he had gone to the Citadel the past week, noting that he had graduated from there, and stated that there were three young persons from the area attending the Citadel at this time. He stated that he believed this indicated that schools in the area were certainly doing pretty well.

Councilman Olshefski recognized students from Alabama A&M in the audience and asked one of them to go to the microphone and explain why they were in attendance at the meeting.

Ms. Adriauna Davis appeared before the Council, stating that her group was attending this meeting so that they could do a report for one of their urban planning classes.

President Russell welcomed the students to the meeting.

Councilman Kling stated that he was a former graduate in Planning from Alabama A&M, as well as was his wife. He stated that this was a great program and that he believed they would all find it a great benefit.

President Russell stated that, as he had mentioned before, there were Boy Scouts from Troop 633, from Southside Baptist Church, present. He asked if one of them would go to the microphone and say why they were present at the meeting and what badge they were working on.

Mr. David Appleberry appeared before the Council, stating that he was with Troop 633, and that they were present at the meeting to work on the Citizenship in the Community merit badge

and the Communications merit badge.

President Russell stated that Thad Young from Troop 770, First Baptist Church, was also present and asked that he go to the microphone and introduce himself.

Mr. Young stated that he was from Troop 770 and was present to work on the Citizenship in the Community merit badge.

President Russell stated that the Council members would like to meet with the scouts after the meeting and answer any questions they might have or assist them in any way they could.

President Russell announced the appointment of Chris McNeese and Michelle Jordan as the Council appointments to the Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committee.

Councilman Showers asked if there were any other student groups present in the audience who would like to introduce themselves.

There was no response.

Councilman Showers welcomed any such groups who were present in the audience at this time.

President Russell stated that the Council members would be glad to talk to these groups after the meeting, as well, if they had any questions.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Unfinished Business Items for Action.

President Russell moved for approval of Ordinance

No. 13-630, Substitute A, adopting the City of Huntsville Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2014, beginning October 1, 2013, which ordinance was introduced at the August 22, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-630, SUBSTITUTE A)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell asked Mr. Taylor to comment on the budget.

Mr. Taylor stated that he had distributed to the Council members a document by e-mail and that he would be happy to go over this with them in detail at this time. He stated that this represented what the Mayor had introduced at the prior Council meeting in his proposed budget, noting that there had been a few minor changes to it. He stated that all of these were included in Substitute A. He stated that the items were relatively minor but it was important to note all of them.

Mr. Taylor stated that they had made a couple of corrections to the Operating Budget for certain departments, noting that these were found after the fact and had not been correct in the first proposal. He stated that one of these was a \$3400 exchange between the Legal Department and the Finance Department. He stated that there were some minor adjustments, which totaled \$1500, across two or three other departments.

Mr. Taylor stated that they had also increased appropriations for several agencies, compared to the original proposal. He stated that one of these was to increase

Early Works by \$4500. He stated that the Council members might recall that a few months prior, the City had added money to the Early Works budget in order to catch up on its commitment to pay for the utilities at the Bicentennial Fountain. He stated that they had failed to include this annual amount in the budget, noting that it was being funded by Liquor and Lodging Tax.

Mr. Taylor stated that the prior year, immediately after the budget had passed, the Council had increased the appropriation to the Partnership for a Drug-Free Community by \$11,000. He stated that the Administration had intended that this be included and that it was reflected in the current proposal.

Mr. Taylor stated, concerning the North Alabama Coalition for the Homeless appropriation, in the amount of \$40,000, that the Council had amended the budget to include this in the prior year also, and that it had now been included.

Mr. Taylor stated that there was a transfer between the General Fund and the Community Development Fund related to Code enforcement costs, noting that the number had been incorrect in the previous proposal, and that this was a \$52,000 change.

Mr. Taylor stated that there had been a net increase in the budget of \$4500, which was the Early Works item, but that other than that it was as presented three weeks prior.

Councilman Kling asked Mr. Taylor if the General Fund budget had any of the miscellaneous resurfacing or if all of

road resurfacing was in the Capital budget.

Mr. Taylor stated that all the street resurfacing was in the Capital Plan and in the Gas Tax Fund, which he noted they had to use for resurfacing. He stated that there were two pots of money for this.

Councilman Kling asked if the Gas Fund pot was part of the General Fund budget.

Mr. Taylor replied in the negative, stating that it was part of the special revenue funds, that it was separate.

President Russell asked Chief Lewis Morris of the Police Department to come to the microphone.

President Russell asked Chief Morris if the Police Department was getting enough money in the proposed budget to keep the city safe.

Chief Morris replied in the affirmative, stating that the funding was essentially the same as it had been the prior year and that they should be able to continue to provide services.

President Russell inquired as to the morale in the Police Department.

Chief Morris stated that he hoped it was really good, noting that he believed everyone was excited about being able to do their job and that they were doing well.

President Russell asked Chief Morris if when he advertised for a class, he was having enough participants to make sure there would be quality police officers.

Chief Morris replied in the affirmative. He stated that

they were in the middle of a process at this time and that they intended to begin an academy in February of the following year. He stated that there had been several applicants and noted that there were multiple steps to the process. He stated that they usually ended up with a pool of approximately 100 to select from.

President Russell asked Chief Morris if somehow, magically, there would be extra money, what he would like to do with this for the Police Department.

Chief Morris stated that it would be to work on fleet.

President Russell asked Chief Morris to tell the Council about his fleet.

Chief Morris stated that they had been able to purchase new cars the prior year, new patrol cars as well as some plain cars for the investigative fleet. He stated that they had purchased a more fuel-efficient car, noting that the cars that they had at this time, the Crown Victorias, were largely V-8's and that they had gone to a V-6, an Interceptor, with no loss of performance. He continued that they had also gone to a smaller vehicle in the unmarked vehicles. He stated that if they could continue on this path, they would be in good shape.

President Russell asked Chief Morris approximately how many cars he would need at this time if he would get new cars, how many he would be getting in the proposed budget and how many he felt he needed.

Chief Morris stated that the prior year, they had gotten

approximately 28 marked and approximately 10 unmarked cars. He stated that they had a fleet replacement plan that they were working on, a five-year replacement plan to replace 20 percent of the fleet, but noted that this was somewhat optimistic.

Councilman Showers asked Chief Morris if he would give them some idea as to what the recruitment committee in the Police Department was doing.

Chief Morris stated that they attended some recruitment fairs. He stated that there were some places that they just did not get a return for in terms of recruitment. He stated that they recruited largely by word of mouth, that they recruited at the local universities and through the military. He continued that they tried faith-based recruiting also. He stated that they had a recruiting team that had gone out and done some recruiting. He stated that they opened their process in the May-June time frame, and that they focused on recruiting approximately 60 to 90 days before this, in terms of going out and heavily recruiting person to person. He stated that for any other times, they had some videos, and they always had word-of-mouth, and they took job interest cards throughout the year.

Councilman Showers asked if the number of females who made application was increasing or if it was just about the same as it had been previously.

Chief Morris stated that he would have to inquire of Human Resources as to how many females applied for the job,

noting that there were a lot of persons who applied and that they never knew they were actually applicants until they scheduled the first portion of their testing, the physical agilities test, and they would show up for that. He stated that they had had a lot of females, noting that in the last academy he believed there had been eight females. He stated that this was something they focused on, minority recruiting and females.

Councilman Showers stated that he had noticed something different about the new police cars, noting that they had bumper protectors. He asked if this was helping them any.

Chief Morris asked Councilman Showers if he was referring to the push bars.

Councilman Showers replied in the affirmative.

Chief Morris stated that the center portion of these provided the mount for the siren and that it also allowed them to put some lights on the front bumper, the center portion of the push bar, so that when they went through an intersection, this would go through the intersection first. He stated that, also, the siren was out in front of the car, noting that this gave a little better visibility and a little better sound, to give warning. He stated that they wrapped around, noting that there was a lot of equipment in the front of the car and that this protected the front bumper. He continued that in a crash, this would keep the car from tearing up and having to have major repairs. He stated that, also, there were times that

they needed to push a car out of the way, if there was a minor accident and the car would not move.

President Russell asked Chief Howard McFarlen of the Fire Department to come to the microphone.

President Russell asked Chief McFarlen if he believed he was receiving enough money to keep the city safe.

Chief McFarlen replied in the affirmative, stating that they were looking at level funding and that he did not believe they would have any problem.

President Russell inquired concerning the morale in his department.

Chief McFarlen stated that he hoped morale was good, noting that from the indications he was getting, he believed everything was working pretty well.

President Russell asked Chief McFarlen if when he opened a class of recruits, he had enough people to assure he had quality applicants and quality fire fighters.

Chief McFarlen replied in the affirmative, noting that he believed they had had approximately 700 applicants when they had last opened the position.

President Russell asked Chief McFarlen what he would do if they were able to get him more money for his department.

Chief McFarlen stated that he agreed with Chief Morris, that he would also like to look at his small fleet. He stated that they had gotten some trucks the prior year, that they had just gotten a ladder truck, and that they had gotten some

trucks in their small fleet that they had to use from day to day, with their inspection department, and that they could use a few more of these.

President Russell asked if this had been to replace vehicles they had.

Chief McFarlen replied in the affirmative, stating that they were replacing vehicles they had been using.

Councilman Showers stated to Chief Morris that he had a big occasion coming up on North Parkway, noting that they were certainly looking forward to this and asking if he could provide a date and time of this groundbreaking for the public for this new police precinct.

Chief Morris stated that the groundbreaking for the North Precinct was scheduled for October 9 at 2 p.m.

Councilman Showers stated that this had been a long time in coming.

Chief Morris stated that it was also highly anticipated.

President Russell asked Mr. Taylor what concerned him most with the proposed budget, asking if he believed the sales tax figure was correct and if he believed fuel costs were going to rise.

Mr. Taylor stated that they believed the sales tax figure they were using was a reasonable figure. He stated that they were not where they needed to be on this for the current year and noted that this would most likely be the most volatile financial figure in the city. He stated that all the leading

indicators they had, concerning the level of commercial and residential construction, were doing very well, and business license revenues were up, noting that all of these were indicative of what the business community thought and what consumers thought about what lay ahead. He stated they felt the 3 percent was reasonable, noting that they certainly wished they were at this level in the current year but that there had been some things that they could not control. He stated that hopefully these would not be part of the following year's equation.

Mr. Taylor stated that fuel prices was most likely the second most volatile figure in the City financially. He stated that there did not appear to be a big shock concerning this at this time, noting that fuel costs had gone up recently but that this had happened several times during the year and then they had gone back down. He stated that at this time they were, surprisingly, within one-tenth of a percent of achieving their fuel budget goal. He stated that they watched this every month and reported it to the Council and made changes as needed.

Mr. Taylor stated that the most serious concern in the budget was that it was so tight. He stated that sales tax revenues at this time were equal to the Personnel costs and that sales tax was rising slower over time, that the General Fund budget was rising slower over time than Personnel costs. He stated that they believed they had this managed for the following three or four years, noting that this was part of the

restructuring the Council had done the prior year.

Mr. Taylor stated that, as Chief Morris and Chief McFarlen had mentioned, Fleet was the highest priority for new money in the City. He stated that they should be spending \$6 million to \$7 million per year on fleet, noting that they had spent \$6 million the prior year and that that was the only money they had spent in the prior four years, that they were technically three or four years behind on this. He stated that, as had been mentioned at the prior Council meeting, they hoped to come back with a plan to address this in a small way, just to create relief in the most difficult areas, in order to eliminate a lot of the repairs they were having to make. He stated that the greatest pressure was for Fleet and, of course, the Capital projects that had been severely impacted in the prior year.

President Russell inquired as to how much was included in the proposed budget for Fleet.

Mr. Taylor stated that for recurring Fleet for the departments, it was zero. He stated that the approximately \$900,000 that was in the budget was money that was in the Public Transit Department, which he noted matched a substantial amount of money they got for replacing buses. He stated that that Capital figure was somewhat misleading because there was zero in there for all the other departments.

Councilman Kling asked Mr. Taylor if he was anticipating that there would be any type of budget carryover from the current fiscal year that could be used for Fleet.

Mr. Taylor stated that that was hard to anticipate at this time because of the sales tax movement they had seen in the past few months, with this number having slid from where it had been. He stated that there were other revenues that had made up some of the sales tax deficit. He stated that the sales tax revenue just needed to level off and be stable for the next two months. He stated that there had been quite a bit of pressure on repairs and maintenance areas, both in facilities and in vehicle repair. He stated that at this time it would be hard to say whether there would be any carryover.

Councilman Showers inquired as to the City's status with finance rating agencies at this time.

Mr. Taylor stated that the City's rating with both Standard & Poor's and Moody's was AAA. He stated that the Council might recall that Moody's had reported a month or so prior that they no longer had the City on Negative Outlook, that they were stable.

Councilman Showers stated that a few years prior, they had had a buy-out program for the City employees and noted that there were some employees who had not taken advantage of this and that several employees had asked him if they could have another buy-out. He questioned if they could perhaps do this and have savings resulting from this, by bringing in persons whose salaries would be less than those persons who would be retiring.

Mr. Taylor stated that they would have to look at the

numbers, noting that in 2010, when they had had the previous buy-out, there had been a different make-up in the work force. He stated that many persons had left, noting that they had actually had as many persons retire in the current year as they had in 2010, and that, in fact, they had exceeded that number approximately a month prior for the full-time employees. He stated that previously approximately 45 percent of the work force was at the top end of the pay scale and that at this time that number was at approximately 25 percent, since there had been a large number of retirements.

Mr. Taylor stated that they would have to look at the economics of this and what the Administration and Council would be interested in in terms of an incentive and what that would mean and who it would affect in the work force. He stated that it would take some time to evaluate this.

Councilman Showers asked if the City had been enhanced by the first round of buy-outs.

Mr. Taylor stated that it had been, based on the numbers that they were able to follow initially, noting that this had become more difficult as promotions were made and new persons came to work for the City. He stated that they still had fewer employees at this time than they had had at the time of the buy-out, and so by that measure they were spending less on personnel, and that it had helped keep costs down. He stated that it had been counted as a success at the time.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Taylor how long it would take

for his department to analyze the numbers and provide the Council a report about where they were in terms of a second buy-out.

Mr. Taylor stated that they would first like to talk to Mr. Byron Thomas, Director of Human Resources, and Mayor Battle, and determine how they might approach that at this time. He stated that they could provide more information concerning this over the course of the month but that it would be hard for him to tell Councilman Showers at this time. He stated that he would let the Council know in the next couple of weeks what they thought about this matter.

Mayor Battle stated that he would like to weigh in on this from the Administration side. He stated that they had had many, many retirements in the first half of the year and had lost some maturity, especially in the Police Department. He stated that they had just done longevity pay so that they could keep people longer and now they were proposing to do a buy-out so that they could keep them shorter. He stated that he felt they were most likely at the state they needed to be at this point, noting that he did not want to see a mass exodus of persons that would be incentivized to leave the City.

Mayor Battle stated that the longevity pay was in place to give persons a reason for staying with the City longer and that he felt this was probably a good thing and that he did not believe they were at the stage where they were ready to do another buy-out, noting that he felt they were on an upstream

with their budget.

Mayor Battle stated that they had four items they needed to look at very strongly, with Fleet being one of them. He stated that Repaving was also one of these, noting that the better they kept their roads, the longer they would keep their roads. He stated that Road Construction was also going to be very important, noting that they had not addressed their major arterials, which he had been campaigning for for a number of months and would continue to campaign for. He stated that they hoped to have a conversation with the Governor and the Highway Director in the near future to attempt to come to a conclusion on this matter. He stated that the final one was the Building Repair Fund, noting that Jeff Easter would tell them that on a day-to-day basis he did the best he could with everything he had but that he did not have enough money for 52 buildings and all the square footage they had in the city.

Mayor Battle stated that these were things they needed to look at, that they were items that could be delayed, but they could not be delayed forever. He stated that they were working on these as they moved through the process.

Mayor Battle stated that he believed an employee buy-out at this time would harm them more than it would help them.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Taylor to provide these numbers to the Council as soon as he had them.

Mr. Taylor stated that they would first report about what the process would entail and then they would be in touch with

the Council.

Councilman Kling stated that the Council had not had a lot of discussion about the proposed budget because there was really not much play in it. He stated that he believed Mayor Battle and Mr. Taylor had brought the Council a very strong and responsible budget, that they were putting their priorities in many good areas. He stated that while they had not had as many meetings concerning the proposed budget as they had had in prior years because of the lack of play in it, he did feel that it was a very strong document. He suggested that the Council vote on the proposed budget at this time, while all five Council members were present.

Councilman Showers asked if the non-appropriated groups who had submitted requests for funding had been level funded for the following year.

Mr. Taylor stated that there had not been a solicitation or a receipt of many requests, that there had been some unsolicited ones that had come in. He stated that the budget the Council had in front of it was the same as the prior year's budget except for the items that had been highlighted at the prior meeting that had been changed. He stated that he could go over these changes, but that for the most part, the agencies were receiving what they had received the prior year.

Councilman Showers stated that that was sufficient.

President Russell called for the vote on Ordinance No. 13-630, Substitute A, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Kling moved for approval of Resolution No. 13-631, adopting the City of Huntsville Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Years 2014-2023, which resolution was introduced at the August 22, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-631)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell asked Mr. Taylor to comment on the above resolution.

Mr. Taylor stated that there had been no changes made to what had been presented to the Council at the August 22 meeting. He stated that this was just a carry forward of the plan that had been adopted the prior year by the Council. He stated that there was one significant change that would be occurring in the year 2014 in the budget the Council had just approved, and that this was related to the Weatherly Road Extension project.

Mayor Battle stated that they would be back before the Council most likely at the end of December to talk to them about reconstructing this plan, that it would be changed in some ways as they started to address roads and major arterials. He stated that that would be a discussion for a later date, but at this time the plan was very good for what they needed, although it would not take care of the major arterials after they had had conversations with the State and found out what their needs would be.

President Russell asked Mr. Shane Davis to come to the microphone.

Councilman Showers stated that one item that stood out with him was the Northern Bypass and stated that Mr. Davis could most likely address that better than anyone else present. He stated that there had been some promises made in the past and that some of these had fallen through. He stated that there was a great need to get the Northern Bypass to the Parkway. He stated that he understood that this was about dollars but asked how they could help to speed up this process, so that they could get the section from Pulaski Pike to the Parkway included much sooner than what was in the current plan. He stated that what he was seeing was 2018 and stated that that was just too long to wait.

Councilman Showers commended Mayor Battle for what he had done in the campaign to get the city's road projects and to get other monies that were out there to do this with. He stated that the Northern Bypass would mean so much to that section of the city in terms of the economic impact, new businesses coming into the area, residential character coming into the area. He stated that when this road was finished from Pulaski Pike to the Parkway, it would be one of the most traveled routes in the city, certainly in terms of the traffic they now had on the Parkway in the mornings and on Pulaski Pike and the Parkway in the afternoons. He stated that he was trying to get support to get this done as soon as possible.

Councilman Showers stated that he realized all the other projects were important and that he was not taking away from anyone else's project. He asked if there were any other monies they could put in the Capital Budget that would give them more opportunity to have completion of this portion of the Northern Bypass before 2018.

Mr. Davis stated that, unfortunately, the answer to Councilman Showers' question was no. He stated that, as Mr. Taylor had mentioned, in the prior year's Capital Budget there had been a change in the five-year program and that this had erased approximately \$80 million out of the Capital Plan over five years, so that the Capital Plan was very, very lean. He stated that they had done what they had done on this in order to keep the quality of services they had, to prevent layoffs, and to keep their AAA bond rating. He continued that they still had a decent Capital Plan. He stated that Mayor Battle, Mr. Taylor, and himself were working on possibly revising this, noting that the City had many needs, including not just roads but the greenway program, the parks program, and the revitalization of neighborhoods.

Mr. Davis stated that the Northern Bypass was a very critical project. He stated that to fully fund this plan, they were looking at 2022. He continued that the Northern Bypass was important not just for North Huntsville but for the entirety of Madison County. He stated that as they continued to recruit industrial projects, of which they were working more

than 30 at this time, most of them were in the western corridor and that these were very important, that they would provide good jobs. He stated that what the Northern Bypass would do would be to open up some major land that at this time they just did not have access to for industries such as Toyota. He stated that these jobs were for Huntsville-Madison County, which was what they wanted, noting that the Limestone County growth area was going to be tremendous but that not all those people would work and live in Huntsville-Madison County and that the more sites they could have in the core, the better opportunity they would have there, and that the Northern Bypass would do this. He stated that ATRIP projects were a good thing but they only met some of the needs, not all of the needs.

Mr. Davis stated that he could inform Councilman Showers that the Northern Bypass was very high on Mayor Battle's list and that they hoped to be able to move it up, as it was very high on the list for two things: moving traffic and opening industrial opportunities.

President Russell asked Mr. Davis what kept him up at night or what his biggest concern was with the Capital Budget. He stated that he had voiced a lot of his concerns to Mr. Davis and he would like to hear what his were.

Mr. Davis stated that what kept him up at night was the Capital Plan. He stated that he and President Russell had had some conversations about what they had had to do the prior year and stated that they had to find a way to recover this. He

stated that sales tax was their life blood, along with property tax, in operating, and that the Capital Plan helped do this.

Mr. Davis stated that he had learned from a very wise man whom he had had the opportunity to work for for 10 years, Dallas Fanning, and he had said, "If you eat all your seed corn, you can't grow." He stated that that was kind of where they were and that they had to get a more aggressive Capital Plan so they could continue to grow, which he noted helped the Operating side of the house.

Mr. Davis stated that they needed to find a way to replace the \$80 million they had stripped from a very aggressive Capital Plan. He stated he was not saying the Capital Plan they had was bad but that it was not addressing the needs they had, and that with the concern with ALDOT and the major arterials, where Mayor Battle was working with the Governor on trying to put these back in place, it was critical.

President Russell stated that one of his concerns was Governors Drive, Airport Road, Whitesburg Drive, what he considered the inner city, the core of the city, that was getting more congested every day. He stated that he was aware they had done lots of things which had certainly improved Governors Drive but asked if Mr. Davis could tell them what he felt this area was going to be like in five or ten years if they continued to do nothing to help this situation.

Mr. Davis stated that it was hard to say, noting that most of that area was 100 percent built out, although there was a

little more in the Jones Valley area that would be built out. He stated that what they had noticed was that this area was really congested mostly two times a day, for a total of about four hours. He stated that this was going to be an expensive project, noting that it was one that they had canceled out of the Capital Plan, noting that it had been funded at approximately \$22 million, which he noted would not build Airport Road.

Mr. Davis stated that this was a vital part of the community and that to seven-lane Airport Road, with the business setbacks, would drastically change this retail corridor. He stated that they had kind of been torn on this from a planning perspective, that they could get more traffic through there but questioned if they would do more harm than good in this situation. He stated that they were going to have to do something and they did not know if there could be an alternative route, to try to shift some of this traffic that was trying to get to Redstone or the Parkway. He stated that many of the persons coming through this area were not doing commerce in the area but were simply trying to get to work or to get home. He stated that they had looked at this area with Engineering and Planning and that to seven-lane the area would be pretty destructive in some locations, although not all locations. He reiterated that this was a very vital retail corridor at this time.

President Russell asked Mr. Davis if he were the person

who could address the purchase of Grissom High School and what funds they would have for that.

Mr. Davis stated that he would let Mr. Taylor address that.

Mr. Taylor stated that there were a couple of projects in the Capital Plan directly related to their commitment. He asked if President Russell was referring to the agreement that was on the agenda for this meeting.

President Russell replied in the affirmative. He continued that he wanted to know what would happen after this, in two years from this time, and five years from this time, what improvements they planned to make.

Mr. Taylor stated that with respect to a specific commitment, Weatherly Road Extension was included in this commitment, noting that it was a \$6 million commitment, and not to exceed that amount. He stated that, also, they had a \$2 million commitment related to the acquisition of the school in several years, noting that this was in the Capital Plan in 2017 or 2018. He stated that that was what he could tell the Council about the funding of the commitment but that as far as the facilities, et cetera, he did not believe that was what President Russell was asking about.

Mayor Battle stated that the thing that kept him up at night in the Capital Plan was the roads. He stated that the road plans at this time were Lily Flag Road, Byrd Spring Road, Mastin Lake Road, finishing 565 through Moores Mill,

Shields Road, and the Northern Bypass. He continued that right after that was Research Park Boulevard, between Gate 9, up to north of 72, and then the Southern Bypass, noting that this had to be started considering to be looked at within the next 10 years because in 20 years the Parkway would hit capacity.

Mayor Battle stated that in the midst of this, they had Parks and Recreation, that they had \$8 million to purchase \$3 million worth of land and redo soccer fields, and then start on the John Hunt Plan.

Mayor Battle stated that they also had other needs, including the repurposing of both Grissom and Johnson, finishing the John Hunt Plan, and the Riverwalk along Pinhook Creek. He stated that they had greenways and bike trails that they had to put enough money into so that they could start connecting these, and that as they started connecting them, they would have enough greenways and bike trails so that they would have an overall plan that would provide a walkability and rideability plan throughout the city.

Mayor Battle stated that all three of these sections were the sections they had to work on and find some funding for, that these were important and they were not in the Capital Plan out two, three, or four years. He stated that they were okay for the first two years or three years and that everyone could ride on the roads and have an 18-minute commute from work but that what they had to look at was the long range of five, ten, or fifteen years, that these would be the times

they would start running into problems. He stated that they would have to work at this time on putting the groundwork in place that would be set up for five, ten, or fifteen years.

Mayor Battle stated that it had always been the strength of the community to look far ahead and make sure they had the foundation in place so they could continue to grow and prosper. He stated that these were the plans from Administration to be working on the next year, as they were okay for a year or two, but they had to put some building blocks in place so they could get ready to go for the next five or ten years.

Councilman Showers stated to Mayor Battle that in three years Johnson High School would be relocated and that a lot of the citizens were certainly concerned about what they were going to do with the building that was on the campus at this time.

Mayor Battle stated that Mr. Reynolds had been working on this and doing a very good job with it and asked him to comment on this.

Mr. Reynolds stated that they were looking at the spring of 2016, upon Council approval, to occupy some part of Johnson High School. He stated that they were in conversation with the National Guard, the Alabama State Troopers, the Madison County Sheriff's Department, and the E911 Center, who were interested in occupying some of this space. He stated that, also, the Police and Fire Departments hoped to have a public safety training facility at the location, and that they

hoped to be open sometime in the fall of 2016.

Councilman Showers asked how much revenue they had in the proposed budget that would address the logistics of this move.

Mr. Reynolds stated that they did not have any funding identified in this budget. He stated that they believed a transfer would occur between the School System and the National Guard and that they had committed to a lot of the moving expense and the current maintenance needs of the school.

Councilman Showers stated that he certainly hoped that as they looked at this budget, they would treat Johnson High School the same as they would treat any other school. He stated that they had funding in this budget for another school but they had nothing for Johnson High School and that this needed to be re-looked at.

Mr. Reynolds stated that his answer had been related to the old Johnson High School that the City would be acquiring and not the construction of the new facility.

Councilman Showers stated that the City would not be constructing the new Grissom High School, but, yet, they had \$2 million in the budget.

Mayor Battle stated that the \$2 million was the differential that the City would be giving the School Board to pick up both facilities, that this would give them the Grissom facility and the Johnson facility. He continued that the \$2 million was not just for Grissom or just for Johnson, that it was for both of these facilities. He stated that when the

appraisals had come in, they had both come in at approximately \$4 million each, and that they had ended up picking up both these properties for the differential of what they were doing for roadways for the south end and the \$2 million.

Councilman Showers stated that he appreciated Mayor Battle stating that in this way at this time, noting that the persons he represented wanted to see the same notice given to the infrastructure from Pulaski Pike down to the site of the school as was given with anyone else. He stated that he would rather see in the budget that the \$2 million not be identified just to Grissom but to show that it would be a combined effort on Grissom and Johnson, in terms of their infrastructure, and the roads that would lead to the school. He asked Mr. Taylor if that would be a problem.

Mr. Taylor stated that the \$2 million that was being referred to was actually listed in the 2017 Capital Plan as a Johnson and Grissom High School Repurposing line item. He stated that it did pertain to both schools, just as Mayor Battle had stated.

Councilman Showers stated that he just wanted to be certain that there would be equal amounts of money in the budget, that both schools would be assisted in terms of their infrastructure and other things.

Mayor Battle stated that he could assure Councilman Showers that what they were talking about spending in roadway money would be that more would be spent in

North Huntsville than in South Huntsville, that they were talking about overpasses that cost \$50 million on the south end of town and overpasses that were \$30 million plus \$45 million on the Northern Bypass, so that there would be \$75 million on the north side. He stated that they were not necessarily looking at areas of town, that they were looking at how they moved traffic and how they developed out areas. He stated that the North had more opportunity to be developed in the area they were working on than the South at this time. He stated that both areas would get their share if they could make the road plans work.

Councilman Showers stated that he was glad to hear Mayor Battle say this, noting that when he had been elected approximately 26 years prior, the citizens who had elected him had sent him to the Council to represent them across the board on city issues. He stated that he was not attempting to make an issue of whether they supported Grissom High School or Johnson High School, that he was saying to equally address them.

Councilman Showers stated that the \$75 million that Mayor Battle had indicated for North Huntsville was not something he was dealing with at this time, in terms of the Parkway and other road projects, but that his point on this was making sure that both schools would be equally supported by the City, in terms of help with infrastructure and other things, that it would be done equally.

Mayor Battle stated that more than equally, they wanted to make sure they addressed the needs that needed to be addressed. He stated that they were putting a multi-million dollar police facility in the North and were not putting one in the South but that was just because it was not the time to put one in the South. He stated that they were working to make sure the entire city was taken care of, noting that there were some needs in the West, in Councilman Culver's district, that they had addressed recently. He stated that when they started looking at traffic needs, they had to go by traffic counts and traffic needs and what would actually make a success out of the system. He stated that he believed they could safely say that they were making sure every part of the city was taken care of.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Davis what the plans were at this time for vacating Grissom High School, the plans for the relocation to the new site.

Mr. Davis stated that he would let Mayor Battle or Mr. Reynolds address that issue but stated that he would like to add one thing to what was being discussed. He stated that to date, as far as public right-of-way needs and as far as utilities and the turn lanes they were talking about, as far as accessing the school property, he was not sure it had been determined what was needed, or what help was needed, but that the City would do that, that this was something they had historically always done. He stated that he believed Grissom was a little further along with what they were going to need

but stated that certainly if the School Board reached out and needed help with a turn lane, et cetera, for accessing the Johnson campus, they would certainly help them do that.

Councilman Showers stated that that was really his concern. He stated that with Pulaski Pike being a road that was five lanes and with the new school going in where it was designated to go, and with traffic going north and south, they were going to need some infrastructure assistance in order to get to the school. He stated that he was just making sure that there was going to be some money to help the School Board and to help both schools do the necessary infrastructure work.

Mr. Davis stated that once they had the layouts, and the traffic in general, that if, for instance, it was signal lights that were needed, et cetera, that was something the City had historically done and that they would do. He continued that they just had not gotten to that stage as of this time.

Councilman Showers asked if the School Board needed to accelerate their plans for Johnson High School rather than to wait.

Mr. Davis stated that he believed they were on a parallel path but that just from the architectural layout of the site, he did not believe they had determined the traffic patterns. He continued that he did not believe either project was being delayed over the other.

Councilman Kling stated he was not attempting to insert anything into the budget but noted it had been mentioned that

there were some things they were doing as far as economic development and stated that if there were some things they could do in the inner city, he wanted to point out that West Huntsville Elementary School was vacant. He continued that he was aware that this was property of the school system and that The Schools Foundation was there and that they should make that a permanent location for them but there was still a large amount of the school that was available. He stated that with all the things that were being done, if there were something that could be done at this facility that would be neighborhood friendly, he believed the School Board would be glad to sell this property to someone, not the City, but perhaps there would be a way they could help broker a deal that would be neighborhood friendly and also help the school system sell the property. He stated that he believed the property was appraised at approximately \$900,000 to \$1 million.

Mr. Davis stated to Councilman Kling that they were very aware of this property. He stated that each economic development property had certain needs and requirements but that this was a piece of property that they were aware of.

Councilman Kling stated that it was a central location, right in the middle of the arts district, with large trees surrounding it.

Councilman Kling stated that he was also aware they were looking at grocery stores as a possibility and stated that the old Winn-Dixie on Triana Boulevard in the Crossroads Shopping

Center was available, noting that this would be a prime location, in proximity to a large number of persons within walking distance.

Councilman Kling moved to amend Resolution No. 13-631 to state that a minimum of two-thirds of all funds appropriated for street resurfacing would be spent on residential neighborhood streets.

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

Councilman Kling stated that this was similar to what the Council had done in the past and that he believed it had helped neighborhoods throughout the city. He continued that the understanding was that it would be equally utilized throughout the city.

President Russell asked if there was any discussion on the amendment.

There was no response.

President Russell called for the vote on the above amendment, and it was unanimously approved.

Councilman Olshefski stated that he appreciated the work the Mayor and others had done on the Capital Improvement Plan, noting that he felt comfortable with what they were doing at Grissom and that he was comfortable looking at the entire deal. He stated that he was as concerned as the Mayor about the roads and all of the above. He stated that if they had all these great things and could not get to them, it would be a nightmare.

President Russell called for the vote on Resolution No. 13-631, as amended, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers moved for approval of Ordinance No. 13-632, authorizing a one percent (1.0%) cost-of-living adjustment to all eligible employees, effective October 1, 2013, which ordinance was introduced at the August 22, 2013, Regular Council Meeting, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-632)

Said motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver.

Councilman Showers asked Mr. Taylor if there was any room to add a slight increase to the one-percent increase, if they had any additional dollars to do this.

Mr. Taylor stated that he did not believe they did, noting that Mayor Battle had made a recommendation based on a budget that was extremely tight. He stated that one percent was \$1.1 million and that that was a lot of money in this budget. He stated that it did not sound like it, but that they were dealing with an amount of money that was going to be new money the following year and that most of this money was spoken for. He stated that health care, retirement, and step raises were the things that were commanding all of the new dollars. He stated that Mayor Battle's priority was to keep the pay scale moving forward at some pace, although it was a small number compared to things persons heard that other persons had done. He stated that they were just trying to keep some forward momentum in the budget, noting that they had just added the

longevity increase, at \$300,000, which he noted was .3 percent. He stated that it was just very difficult, especially with the things they had talked to the Council about that would not get any funding in the budget and that all the department heads would tell them they desperately needed.

Councilman Showers asked when the one percent would go into effect.

Mr. Taylor stated that it would be in two weeks, the next fiscal year.

Councilman Kling stated that he understood how the budget looked and he was not trying to raise any false optimism, but that if there happened to be a dramatic increase in revenues and they had an opportunity to look at it, he would agree with Councilman Showers that that would certainly be something which would be a high priority.

Councilman Culver stated that he certainly shared the views of Councilman Showers and Councilman Kling on this, and that, in fact, he was hoping they could have done at least a three percent increase, but that he had known after looking at the budget, and especially with reference to the sales tax revenue, that this could not be increased. He stated that he certainly agreed that if they did have a substantial increase, they should revisit this at mid-year, and that if it did not happen mid-year, they could look forward to the next fiscal year budget. He stated that he strongly felt it was important, where they could, to give the City of Huntsville employees a

raise. He stated that Ms. Reed had indicated that the County had given their employees a five percent raise and that previously the City of Huntsville employees had always done better than the County, because they were the City. He stated that it did generate a concern when the City was giving one percent and the County was giving five percent.

Mr. Taylor stated that the County had a different pay structure, noting that the City had merit raises of both three percent and five percent that were also funded in the budget. He stated that this did not affect all employees, that 25 percent of the work force no longer received these. He stated that, however, there was more than just the one percent cost-of-living raise, that there were also merit raises. He stated that, therefore, the County pay raise would be in a different context than the City's, and that everyone needed to consider this.

Councilman Kling stated that he believed the County had actually gone a couple of years without giving any increase, whereas the City had been able to do something just about every year. He stated that certainly the City wanted to do as much as it could for its employees.

President Russell called for the vote on Ordinance No. 13-632, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Introduction.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No.

13-654, amending Ordinance No. 10-739, for Downtown Business Incentive Program, extending the original ordinance for discount parking rates for new businesses for two (2) years.

President Russell asked Mr. Tommy Brown, Director of Parking and Public Transit, for an explanation of the above ordinance.

Mr. Brown stated that approximately two years prior, the Council had enacted an ordinance that would incentivize new businesses that came downtown, that, basically, they would give them half the parking rate, depending on how many new employees the business brought in. He stated that this had been fairly successful and that their current supply still far outstripped their demands, so that they felt it would be a good thing to extend this.

President Russell read and introduced Ordinance No. 13-655, amending Chapter 2, Division 15, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Huntsville, to alter the method of appointment to the Huntsville-Madison County Emergency Management Board.

President Russell stated that it had been requested that the Council consider the next ordinance for unanimous consent at this time. He asked why they were being requested to consider it at this time.

Mr. Reynolds stated that it actually dealt with a single classification and was an increase in the step.

President Russell asked if it was correct that it would be

for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Reynolds stated that actually, upon a vote at this time, it would be retroactive back to the anniversary date of the employee.

Councilman Kling read and introduced an ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 89-79, Classification and Salary Plan, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-656)

Councilman Kling moved that unanimous consent be given for the immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by President Russell, and upon said motion being put to vote, the following vote resulted:

AYES: Culver, Olshefski, Kling, Showers, Russell

NAYS: None

President Russell stated that the motion for unanimous consent for immediate consideration of and action on said ordinance had been unanimously carried.

Councilman Showers thereupon moved that said ordinance be finally adopted, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Kling.

President Russell asked Mr. Reynolds for an explanation of the above ordinance.

Mr. Reynolds stated that they had an employee who had assumed some additional responsibilities and taken on an additional department, and that during the year in which these duties were assigned, the employee had not received a step

raise. He stated that this action would allow this employee to receive a step raise.

President Russell called for the vote on the above ordinance, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers stated to Ms. Joy McKee that he felt this was very deserving, considering the number of tasks for which she had responsibility, and that he was delighted the Council had done this. He stated that she did a wonderful job and he could not understand how she did everything she did.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was New Business Items for Consideration or Action.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an Agreement to Purchase Real Property between the City of Huntsville and Charles E. White, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-657)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke Progress Bank Letter of Credit No. 9000178400, for Sanctuary at River Ridge Phase 2 Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-658)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by

Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke Progress Bank Letter of Credit No. 9000178600, for Sanctuary at River Ridge Phase 2 Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-659)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke Worthington Federal Bank Letter of Credit No. 2012-042, Inspiration on Green Mountain Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-660)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke ServisFirst Bank Letter of Credit No. 10423. for the Village of Providence Phase 6-A Subdivision, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 13-661)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution

authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke BancorpSouth Letter of Credit No. 367000574773, for Hampton Ridge Phase 5 Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-662)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to invoke Regions Bank Letter of Credit No. L054094, for Walton's Mountain III Subdivision, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-663)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to authorize eminent domain proceedings to acquire permanent sanitary sewer easements on, over, and upon parcels of land for the Parkhill Lane Project, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-664)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to seek forfeiture of the surety bond issued by The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-665)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to seek forfeiture of the surety bond issued by RLI Surety Company, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-666)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to seek forfeiture of the surety bond issued by Platte River Insurance Company, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-667)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing a Revocable License Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Huntsville Hotels III, LLC, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-668)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution

authorizing the Mayor to execute Change Order No. 2 to the Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Consolidated Construction Company for Heavy Duty Fleet Services, located at 2739 Johnson Road, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-669)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept an Emergency Management Performance Grant 3 EMA from Alabama Emergency Management agency, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-670)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept an EMPG grant from the Alabama Emergency Management Agency, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-671)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreements with the low bidder meeting specifications as outlined in the attached

Summary of Bids for Acceptance, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-672)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance to amend Budget Ordinance No. 12-768 by changing the authorized personnel strength within various departments, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-673)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance to amend Budget Ordinance No. 12-768 by changing appropriated funding within various departments and funds, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-674)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the acceptance of donations, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-675)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution calling

for early redemption of the City's General Obligation Warrants Series 2003-C, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-676)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Littlejohn Engineering Associates, Inc., d/b/a GW Jones & Sons Consulting Engineers, to accept the assignment of the following contracts owned by GW Jones & Sons Consulting Engineers as of February 4, 2013: Resolution No. 10-28, Resolution No. 08-49, Resolution No. 10-267, Resolution No. 12-313, Resolution No. 13-116, Resolution No. 12-979, 74-401 Agreement (John Hunt Commercial Area Survey), Resolution No. 13-550, 74-401 Agreement (Sanitary Sewer Service to Mapco-Winchester Road to Homer Nance Road), and Purchase Order No. 472843 (Chaney Thompson Dog Park ADA Compliance), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-677)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with RBJ Bailey, L.L.C., for Stormwater Detention Facility Maintenance, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-678)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an application for stop loss insurance coverage with HCC Life Insurance Company for the purpose of renewing stop loss insurance coverage for the City's group health plans, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-679)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a modification to renew and extend an agreement with Delta Dental Insurance Company for group dental insurance, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-680)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a modification to the agreement between the City of Huntsville and VSP for the purpose of providing the City's group vision benefits, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-681)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute the renewal agreement with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama for group health insurance administrative services, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-682)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Business Associate Agreement between the City of Huntsville and Cobbs, Allen & Hall, Inc., for the purpose of safeguarding protected health information on brokered insurance coverage, in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH), as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-683)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Cost Reimbursement

Agreement with the Northeast Alabama Traffic Safety Office, in the amount of \$2,500.00, for traffic enforcement duties, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-684)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to seek a forfeiture of the surety bond issued by Washington International Insurance Company, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-685)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution declaring real property located in the City of Huntsville as surplus and no longer needed for a municipal purpose or public use, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-686)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers and was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Kling stated that item a. on the agenda, Resolution No. 13-657, dealt with a piece of property that the City was getting for the second half of Jim Marek Park that had

been discussed previously at a Council meeting.

Councilman Kling read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between the City of Huntsville and the Huntsville City Board of Education, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-687)

Councilman Kling moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

President Russell asked Mr. Joffrion for an explanation of the above resolution.

Mr. Joffrion stated that this item and item m. on the agenda, Resolution No. 13-688, were companion items that had been previously discussed in this meeting, concerning the purchase of property and the donation of property for the construction of the new Grissom High School and the road extension off Weatherly Road to access the new school property. He stated that it also incorporated the long-term agreement to eventually result in the transfer of both the old Grissom High School site and the old Johnson High School site to the City of Huntsville, for additional uses.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between the City of Huntsville, the Huntsville City Board of Education, and

Hylis Inc., as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-688)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Showers.

Mr. Joffrion stated that this was the companion item.

President Russell inquired as to who Hylis, Inc., was.

Mr. Joffrion stated that it was the Hays family.

President Russell called for the vote on the above resolution, and it was unanimously adopted.

Councilman Showers asked for a moment of privilege.

President Russell recognized Councilman Showers.

Councilman Showers stated that his School Board representative, Ms. Laurie McCaulley, had just arrived at the meeting and he would like to acknowledge her, and he asked her to stand and be recognized.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Legal Department Items/Transactions.

President Russell read and introduced a resolution consenting to the vacation of Pleasant Road right-of-way, Re-subdivision of Roosevelt Park, Deed Book 879, Page 855, as follows:

(RESOLUTION NO. 13-689)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing resolution, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver and was unanimously adopted.

President Russell read and introduced an ordinance authorizing the vacation of a portion of Pleasant Road right-of-way, Re-subdivision of Roosevelt Park, Deed Book 879, Page 855, as follows:

(ORDINANCE NO. 13-690)

President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing ordinance, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver and was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Joffrion submitted the following deed for approval:

(DEED)

Whereupon, President Russell moved for approval of the foregoing deed, which motion was duly seconded by Councilman Culver, and was unanimously approved.

President Russell stated that the next item on the agenda was Non-Roster Communications from the Public.

Ms. Jackie Reed again appeared before the Council, stating that she would first like to thank Councilman Culver for a very interesting and important meeting recently at Edgewater, with a warm welcome to everyone. She stated that he had also advertised this meeting well.

Ms. Reed stated that she would like to thank President Russell for the questions he had asked about the budget. She stated that they used to hold work sessions concerning the budget and determine what the departments needed. She stated that when she saw the Arts Council receiving \$238,000 in the budget, this concerned her. She

inquired as to whether they had received this same amount the prior year.

Ms. Reed stated that she would like to thank all the persons who had taken an interest and had voted "No" on combining the Tax Collector's and Tax Assessor's offices, noting that she felt this was very important to everyone.

Ms. Reed stated that she had the documentation pertaining to the schools and that it would take a New York lawyer to figure out what was going on. She asked that they please keep the public informed concerning this.

Mr. Chris Dayton, 1906 Wooddale Drive, appeared before the Council, stating that he wanted to clarify something he had heard earlier. He stated that Chief Morris had said that the three ways they did recruiting for the Police Department was by going to select schools, going to the military, and faith-based recruiting. He asked if someone could explain a little of this to him, as far as which denominations, which faiths, and why that would be a rich environment for recruiting. He asked how they chose which churches and denominations they went to.

Mr. Joffrion asked Mr. Reynolds if he could address that question.

Mr. Reynolds stated that he could if the Chief was not present, noting that the Chief reached out to several of the ministerial associations to get them involved in recruiting within their churches and their programs that they already had set up. He stated that this was across the board, in all

sections of town, and in other cities, as well.

Ms. Adriauna Davis again appeared before the Council, stating that she wanted to thank the Council members, and she asked her colleagues from Alabama A&M to please stand and be recognized.

President Russell asked if there was anyone else who would like to address the Council at this time.

There was no response.

Upon motion, duly seconded, it was voted to adjourn.

PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK-TREASURER